

*Surgical Treatment of Epilepsy.*—The *Cincinnati Lancet and Observer* (June, 1861) has an interesting paper on this subject, by Dr. J. S. BILLINGS, with some valuable statistical tables which we copy.

1. *Trephining the Skull.*—This operation has been performed in a number of cases in which the disease resulted from injury to the head. Dr. B. gives the following table of seventy-two cases:—

Operator.	Result.	Where reported.
Coates . . . .	Cure . . .	Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, 1806.
Wells . . . .	Cure . . .	Trans. of Soc. for Imp. of Medicine and Surgery, 1812.
Howship . . . .	Death . . .	Abercrombie on Diseases of the Brain, p. 196.
Crampton . . . .	Cure . . .	Dublin Hospital Reports, vol. i.
Berard . . . .	No change . .	Gazette des Hopitaux, April, 1846.
Birch . . . .	Cure . . .	Sir A. Cooper's Lectures on Surgery, vol. i.
Riboli . . . .	Cure . . .	London Medical and Surgical Journal, 1826.
Rhodius . . . .	Cure . . .	Centur I, obs. 66.
Steidele . . . .	Death . . .	Chirurgische Beobachtungen.
Farre . . . .	Death . . .	Sir A. Cooper's Lectures, vol. i. p. 170.
Fricke . . . .	Death . . .	Brun's Chirurgerie.
Riencke . . . .	Death . . .	Brun's Chirurgerie.
Marchetti . . . .	Cure . . .	Dictionnaire des Science Médicale, art. Epilepsie.
Boyer . . . .	Death . . .	Dictionnaire des Science Médicale, art. Epilepsie.
Boncher . . . .	Cure . . .	Dictionnaire des Science Médicale, art. Trepan.
La Motte . . . .	Cure . . .	Dictionnaire des Science Médicale, art. Trepan.
B. Bell, two cases	Both fatal . .	Bell's Surgery, vol. ii.
Do. do.	No change . .	Bell's Surgery, vol. ii.
Buch . . . .	Cure . . .	Travers on Constitutional Irritation.
Blake . . . .	Cure . . .	London Medical and Physiological Journal.
Johnson . . . .	Cure . . .	Virginia Medical Journal, 1837.
Howard . . . .	Improvement .	Transactions of State Medical Society of Ohio, 1843.
Hulihen . . . .	Cure . . .	Reported to me by Dr. Boerstler.
Gross, three cases	All fatal . . .	Gross' Surgery, vol. ii.
Kite . . . .	Cure . . .	Brun's Chirurgerie.
Robertson . . . .	Cure . . .	Gazette Médicale, 1848.
Wurm . . . .	Cure . . .	Surgical Writings of Schmucker, 1776.
Gross . . . .	No change . .	Gross' Surgery, vol. ii.
Tripler . . . .	Death . . .	
Palmer . . . .	Cure . . .	London Medical Gazette, vol. xvii.
Warren, two cases	Cured . . .	Boston Medical Magazine, vol. i.
Brainard . . . .	No change . .	Chicago Medical Journal, 1859.
Do. . . .	Improvement .	Chicago Medical Journal, 1859.
Do., four cases	All cured . . .	Chicago Medical Journal, 1859.
Elliott . . . .	Cure . . .	Transylvania Journal of Medicine, vol. ii.
Dudley . . . .	Improvement .	Transylvania Journal of Medicine, vol. i.
Do., four cases	Cured . . .	Transylvania Journal of Medicine, vol. i.
Rogers . . . .	Improvement .	New York Medical and Physiological Journal, vol. v.
Dixon . . . .	Cure . . .	Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, vol. xxxi.
Panocast . . . .	Cure . . .	Philadelphia Medical Examiner, 1849.
Pope . . . .	Cure . . .	St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal, vol. vii.
Guild . . . .	Cure . . .	American Journal of Medical Sciences, vol. iv.
Hayward . . . .	Cure . . .	Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, 1838.
Hobson . . . .	Cure . . .	Western Lancet, vol. ix.
Do., two cases	Cured . . .	Western Lancet, vol. ix.
Do. . . .	No change . .	Western Lancet, vol. ix.
Yandell . . . .	Improvement .	Western Journal of Medicine and Surgery, vol. vii.
Cadwall . . . .	Cure . . .	Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, vol. xxvii.
Hayward . . . .	Cure . . .	Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, vol. xxviii.
Trowbridge . . . .	Cure . . .	Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, vol. xxviii.
Do. . . .	Cure . . .	Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, vol. xxiv.
Hayward . . . .	Improvement .	Materia Medica and Therapeutics.
Mitchell . . . .	Cure . . .	Essays on Pathology and Therapeutics, by Diekson.
Wells . . . .	Improvement .	American Journal of Medical Sciences, vol. xii.
Campbell . . . .	Cure . . .	American Journal of Medical Sciences, Jan. 1860.
Yeates . . . .	Cure . . .	
Blackman, one case	Improvement .	
Do., two cases	Death . . .	
Edwards, two cases	Death . . .	

Making in all seventy-two cases, of which sixteen proved fatal, or 22 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Forty-two cases are reported as cured, four unchanged, and the remainder improved, but not entirely relieved.

In addition to those mentioned in the table, several cases have been reported by Dr. Stone, of New Orleans, but Dr. B. has not been able to obtain access to the journals containing them.

This operation has been also recommended in cases which had not been the result of injury, but the statistics have not been collected.

2. *Ligation of one or both Carotids.*—The following table gives the result of all the cases in which this operation has been performed, which Dr. B. has been able to find:—

Operator.	Result.	Where reported.
Boileau . . . .	Cure . . . .	Journal Univ. des Science Médicale, 1825.
McClellan . . . .	Improvement .	American Medical Review, vol. iii.
Beeton . . . .	No change .	North American Medical and Surgical Journal, 1827.
Preston, three cases	All improved	Trans. Med. and Phys. Soc. of Calcutta, vols. v. and vi.
Hamilton . . . .	Cure . . . .	Buffalo Medical Journal, vol. ii.
Angell . . . .	Cure . . . .	North American Medico-Chirurgical Review, 1858.
Do.	Death . . . .	North American Medico-Chirurgical Review, 1858.
Brown, U. S. A.	Cure . . . .	Peninsular Journal.
Weber . . . .	No change .	Peninsular Journal, 1859.

Making in all eleven cases: four cures, four improved, two no change, and one death.

The theory which gave rise to this operation was, that the disease was caused by an excess of blood carried to the head, as evinced by the flushed face and turgid, swollen condition of the veins of the neck during an attack.

*Castration for Epilepsy.*—Dr. L. ROOKER records (*Cincinnati Lancet and Observer*, May, 1861) a case of epilepsy in a man, 35 years of age, resulting from self-abuse, to desist from which he found impossible. His expression was idiotic, and he avoided society, particularly that of females, for which last he had an abhorrence. On the 21st of January, 1861, Dr. R. performed double castration, and at the date of the last report (April 20) the patient is said to be improving admirably, and has had no fit since the operation. He says he has lost his inclination for masturbation.

We hope the author will report the future history of the case, as it would be premature as yet to pronounce the operation successful.

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*Ligation of the Primitive Carotid Artery, for Wound of the Internal Maxillary Artery; Recovery.*—Dr. J. C. HUTCHINSON, Professor of Operative Surgery in Long Island College Hospital, records (*Am. Med. Times*, April 20, 1861) a case of this. The subject of it was a blacksmith, 35 years of age, who, on the 11th Sept., received several wounds with an iron punch, the most serious of which was half an inch in front of the external left auditory meatus. He bled profusely at the time, and again for three or four hours afterwards. The bleeding recurred on the 24th Sept., but was stopped by the application of the solution of persulphate of iron. Early in the evening the hemorrhage again recurred; the patient was very pallid, and as the source of hemorrhage was deeply seated, and the vessel could not be reached at the point of injury without making extensive incisions which would involve the parotid gland and the important nerves and vessels it contains, Dr. Hutchinson thought it judicious to ligate the common carotid artery. This he did with the counsel and assistance of Drs. Hamilton and Kissam. He made the usual incision, and tied the vessel above the omo-hyoid muscle. This completely controlled the hemorrhage. The ligation came away on the 22d day, and the patient improved steadily. Owing to the division of some of the branches of the facial nerve, by the incisions made to enlarge the wound, there is paralysis of the left orbicularis muscle.